introduced in the Parliament at the earliest.

(b) The Government has received several complaints against the Haj Committee. These complaints were in the nature of delay in refunds due to the pilgrims, unsatisfactory accommodation and transport in Makkah, number of times the Members of Haj Committee travelled to Saudi Arabia and allowances drawn by them, misuse of free air tickets received from the Airlines and the mismanagement of Haj Committee funds.

(c) and (d) The complaints have been looked into the appropriate action has been taken, whenever necessary.

Disposal of Toxic Wastes

*27. SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA NAHATA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of hospitals and nursing homes in Delhi;

(b) whether there is any law requiring them to destroy the toxic wastes and other infected material which they are turning out in large quantity every day; and

(c) if not, whether Government propose to initiate any action in this direction in the near future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) There are 86 hospitals and 201 registered nursing homes in Delhi.

(b) and (c) The Ministry of Environment & Forests have notified on 24.4.1995, the Draft Bio-medical Waste (Management & Handling) Rules 1995 which have again been notified on 16.10.1997 as Draft Rules for obtaining objections or suggestions from the public. 60 days time has been allowed for filing of objections or suggestions from the public, from the date of notification. These Draft rules shall be applicable to hospitals, nursing homes, veterinary institutions, animal houses or slaughter houses, clinics, dispensaries, laboratories providing treatment to not less than 1000 patients per month. According to these rules the Bio-medical wastes are to be handled as per the prescribed procedures which specify responsibility for handling Bio-medical waste, its segregation, packing, transportation, storage, treatment, disposal maintenance of records, accident reporting and export-import methods for Bio-medical wastes. The rules also specify the responsibility of Bio-medical waste generators and operators.

The Central Pollution Control Board has also developed Environmental Standards and guidelines for management of hospital waste.

Departmental Examination for Section Officers/Senior P.As

*28. SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Union Public Service Commission had conducted Section Officers/Senior P.As Departmental Examina tion in December, 1996;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Commission has not declared the result of the written part of that examination, so far;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Commission is going to conduct another examination in December, 1997;

(e) whether it is necessary to declare final result of the 1996 examination before conducting the 1997 examination; and

(f) if so, what steps are being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) It has become necessary to examine the applicability of the instructions issued by the Government vide Department of Personnel & Training O.M. No. 36012/23/96-Estt. (Res.) dated 22.7.97 on the basis of the judgement of the Supreme Court of India in the case of S. Vinod Kumar Vs Union of India (JT) 1996 (8) SC (6431) before the result of the Section Officers/Senior P. A. Departmental Examination,